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Development (195) Department.

No. SERIES.

G.O. No. 4183

Dated 14th December 1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Poultry improvement in the districts - Scheme of the Joint Director of Animal Husbandry - Dropped.

R.O.C.No.2262-IV/47. Civil Veterinary Department
Madras 5. Dated: 29-10-1947.

From

Sri K.S. Nayar, GBVC., MRCVS., DTVM.,
Joint Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
M a d r a s.

Sir

Poultry Improvement - Work in the Districts.
Government Memorandum No.47611-E/47-3, dated 25-8-47.

I enclose a copy of the Livestock Development Officer's letters noted in the *margin for the information of Government.

*(1) letter Roc.No.3633/47 dated 13-8-47 from the L.D.O.	The second letter answers the point raised in the Government Memorandum quoted above.
(2) Letter Roc.No.247-47 dated 27-9-47.	

2. I take this opportunity to inform Govt. that I am not very much satisfied with the Cockerel distribution scheme drawn up by the Livestock Development Officer which is now under consideration of Govt. nor am I sanguine about the scheme achieving the main object which the Govt. have in view - Poultry improvement in the villages. In fact, the scheme aims at producing more poultry at a Central Farm and later transfer cockrols to the distributing agencies for selling them to the villagers in exchange for their country cocks. I consider that this is not the complete picture of poultry Improvement work to be undertaken by the Government Department which is in charge of the Poultry Improvement work in the whole province. The scheme, as it stands looks more like a commercial enterprise showing profit based on mathematical calculations and I need hardly emphasise the inadvisability of relying on mathematical calculations on livestock work especially in the case of poultry which contract disease of some type or other and vanish en-block in ~~xxxxx~~ lightning speed.

3. I do not propose to go into every detail of the present scheme but I wish to make a few observations which deserve consideration of Government before a final decision on the present scheme is arrived at. It is proposed to concentrate and intensify poultry production work at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur with a basic stock of 400 laying hens and sufficient cocks producing 60,000 eggs during the first year. As there is no specific provision in the scheme to procure the requisite basic stock from outside sources, it has to be presumed that the required number will be taken from the existing stock at the Government Farms at Hosur, Teynampet and Lam. According to the monthly statements for last August, the number of laying hens and chickens belonging to the exotic breeds at the Govt. poultry farms are as follows:-

	Hens	Chickens.
Hosur	110	509
Teynampet	30	309
Iam	6	68

But from the above stock the normal requirements of the Department have to be met. This Department has to see that stock maintained at the following centres does not suffer depletion or deterioration:-

(1) Poultry Farm at Hosur
(2) " at Teynampet
(3) " at Lam
(4) Thirty poultry units attached to the Veterinary institutions.

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(5) Poultry Farms opened at the Agricultural Farms and
(6) Co-operative Department Poultry Scheme centres.

A fairly good percentage of the present growing chicks will have to be supplied to the above centres as replacement for the dead ones and those called out as unfit for further breeding. Further, the initial supply at the rate of 40 pullets, 6 cocks and 50 (three months old) chicks has to be made to the three District Poultry Farms. Thus it will not be possible, in the ordinary course, to spare 400 hens with the required number of chicks for starting the production centre at Hosur from the existing Government stock without detriment to the poultry work already on hand.

4. The selection of the Hosur Farm as the centre for mass production of poultry does not appear to be a happy one. Past experience has shown that the incidence of poultry diseases and mortality among grown up birds and chicks have been somewhat abnormal. The following are the mortality figures for the past 3 years:--

Year.	Stock including chicks.	Mortality from diseases	Distribution	Total of cols. 3 & 4
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1944-45	2,578	602		602
1945-46	3,003	1,031	75	1,106
1946-47	2,509	471	155	626

When the mortality is as indicated above, it does not appear to be a safe proposition to start mass production at Hosur.

5. Production and distribution of cockrels alone will not, in my opinion, constitute the full programme of work to be undertaken for poultry improvement. The villagers to whom exotic cocks have been supplied may neglect proper grading up work through ignorance or indifference. It is also likely that country cocks may again be restored in the villages where grading up work has already been started. Thus the object of distribution of pure bred cocks may not produce the desired effect. It is therefore very necessary that the work in the villages has to be carefully watched periodically and necessary instructions given on improved methods of poultry keeping. In the initial stages a certain amount of propaganda work and proper guidance are essential so that maximum benefits may be derived from any developmental work undertaken. No provision exists in the scheme for work of this type by men trained in poultry and this, I consider, is a vital flaw in the whole scheme.

6. The arrangements proposed in the scheme for collection and sale of the indigenous cockrols is somewhat novel, not to speak of the high cost involved. It is also not known how the public will appreciate the idea of getting dressed poultry meat kept in cold storage for their table purposes. In any case, the erection of a cold storage plant for the purpose at a cost of Rs.22,500/- seems to be an unnecessary item of expenditure. The rearing of the village cocks at the Teynampet Farm for fattening may lead to the importing of disease and thus endanger the health of the valuable stock at the poultry Farm. In the interest of the Poultry Research Station, Teynampet I cannot agree to this arrangement.

7. In this connection, I would invite the attention of the Government to the concluding portion of my note to the Provincial Livestock Improvement Board on the question of opening the District Poultry Farms sanctioned by Government in G.O.No.3257 Development dated 21-8-1945. In temporary structures. I had briefly outlined there the action proposed to be taken by this Department for developing village poultry ~~farmxx xit ixy xegxekkod thakkkhe opening~~ of improvement work through the opening of the District poultry Farms. It is regretted that the opening of these District poultry Farms has been delayed for some reason or other. But it does not mean that the method of Poultry Development contemplated in the scheme is in any way unsound or impracticable. The

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The action proposed to be taken under this scheme is given below in some detail for the information of Government.

5. It is proposed to open 3 District poultry Farms from January 1948. Sites have been secured for the farms and every attempt will be made to secure the 3rd site atonce. As soon as the Govt. orders are received for the erection of/temporary structures a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon who has undergone poultry Training will be deputed to each station to start the work and complete the same before next January. With the opening of the farm, regular production will commence and the programme of work at each farm for the next 3 years will be as follows:-

I. year -

Breeds to be maintained

The breeds to be maintained are white Iorhorns, Rhode Island Reds and Black Minorcas.

The Scheme will be started with 40 pullets, 8 cocks and 50 chicks aged 3 months.

Egg production:-

40 birds at 145 egs per bird per annum - 145 x 40	5,800
Out of 50 chicks, 30% margin should be allowed during the rearing period for mortality, which leaves a balance of 35 birds. Of these (at 50:50 proportion) only 18 will be a females and the rest males. These will attain maturity about 4 to 5 months after the commencement of the scheme and will lay - 7/12 x 145 x 18	3,045
Total egg production for the last year .5,800 (plus) 3,045 ..	8,845 eggs.
Of these eggs, eggs laid during summer season and the pullet eggs broken eggs and culled out eggs will be sold for table purposes numbering approximately	2,200
Eggs utilised for hatching (two 200 eggs capacity incubators and one 50 eggs capacity incubator). ..	3,500
Balance will be sold for hatching to public.	3,145

Chick production -

Out of 3,500 eggs kept for hatching at 50% hatch chicks expected are ..	1,750 chick
Out of 1,750 chicks allowing 30% mortality during rearing stage balance will be	1,225 of varying age
Of these allowing 5% for culling of unthrifty and those unfit for breeding purposes, balance will be	1,165
Of these 50% will be	580 pullet
And 50% will be	580 cockrole

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At the begining of the second year the farm is expected to have the following stock of poultry:-

	Cocks	Hens.
a. Out of the original stock of 40 hens, and 8 cocks allowing for mortality, culled out birds, and non-layers, balance will be	6	30
b. Out of the 50 original stock of chicks after culling balance will be	3	18
c. New pullets of varying ages reared on the farm		580
d. New cockrols varying eggs reared on the farm	580	
Grand Total	589	628 females

Out of 580 new pullets produced during the course of first year 290 will be retained for the home farm and the balance of 290 will be available for village Poultry Improvement work.	Retained for farm use.	290
Out of 580 cocks produced 10% will be retained for farm use, and the rest will be available for Village Poultry Improvement work	58 cocks	
Original stock.	9	48 hens
Total	67	338

With the selling of eggs for hatching to the villagers intensive propaganda work in the adjoining villages will be undertaken by Poultry Trained Fieldman employed at the Dt. Poultry Farm so that the eggs may be properly set for hatching and that the hatched chicks may receive due care and attention. It will also be one of the main duties of this fieldman to pave the way for regular poultry development work through the opening of village poultry improvement units. Co-operative poultry Breeders' Societies &c. When selecting villages for poultry improvement work special preference will be given to Firka Development villages, villages with egg marketting Societies and other similar organisations interested in poultry work.

The next stage is towards the end of the 1st year when 290 pullets and 290 cocks become available for sale to the villagers. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Firka Development Officers concerned will be consulted before the birds are actually distributed to the villagers. Any surplus stock available after meeting the demands of the officers mentioned above will be utilised for starting village Poltry Improvement Units at the rate of 20 pullets and 4 cockrols per unot. These village units will first be started in villages where the poultry fieldman has already undertaken initial propaganda work All the extra cockrols will be given in exchange for the country cocks in villages where improvement work is undertaken and the country cocks sold for table purposes. ~~It is very essential that~~ The Joint Director has stated that the staff of the Co-operative and Firka Development Departments should receive poultry training before they undertake supervision of poultry improvement work in their charge and that the staff may be sent for training to the Poultry Research Station, Teynampet for a period of 3 months. The touring staff of this Department will periodically inspect all the Village Poultry Improvement Centres, attend to diseases in birds and submit periodical reports about the health of the birds. Any sudden outbreak of diseases will be attended to by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon in charge of the District poultry Farm himself or by the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon according to convenience.

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II year.

Production of eggs		
The original stock of 48 hens will lay - 48 x 145 ..	6,960	
Two hundred and ninty new pullets will lay 290 x 145 ..	42,050	
Grand total ..	49,010	eggs.
Eggs laid during summer season, pullet eggs, broken eggs, and culled out eggs will be sold for table ..	18,010	
Number of eggs kept for hatching on that farm	7,000	
The balance sold for selling to public ..	24,000	

Production of Chicks

Out of 7,000 eggs kept for hatching at the farm 50% will hatch ..	3,500	chicks
Out of 3,500 chicks, allowing 30% margin for mortality and 5% for culling balance ..	2,275	eggs
Of these 50% will be pullets and 50% cockrols ..	1,137 1,137	

At the begining of the third year the farm is expected to have the following stock:--

	Cocks	Hens
a. Original stock after allowing for mortality and culling	4	20
b. Out of 50 original chicks, allowing for mortality and culling balance of	2	12
c. First year pullets and cocks after allowing for mortality and culling	44	228
d. Fresh pullets and cockrels of varying ages.	1,137	1,137
Total	1,187	1,397

Out of 1,137 new pullets produced during the second year, 500 will be retained for farm use and the balance will be available for poultry improvement work.	Retained for farm use 500 pullets
Out of 1,137 cockrols 113 will be retained for the home farm and the rest will be available for village poultry improvement work	113 cocks.

The original stock in (a) can be culled out completely and the rest in (b) and (c) above retained	46	240
	159	740

The procedure detailed under 1st year will be followed for starting additional village poultry improvement centres.

p.t.o.

III year -

Production of eggs.

Original stock of 240 birds will lay 240 x 145		34,800 aggs.
500 pullets will lay 145 x 500	..	72,500
Grand Total	..	107,300 eggs.
Eggs laid during summer season, broken eggs, pullet eggs, etc. will be sold for table	..	50;300
The following kept for hatching	..	7,000
Balance sold for selling to the public	..	50,000

Production of chicks -

Out of 7,000 eggs kept for hatching — 50% are expected to hatch	..	3,500 chicks
Allowing for mortality and culling etc, balance 65%	..	2,275
Of these 50% will be pullets	..	1,137
And 50% will be cockrols	..	1,137

At the end of the third year the farm will be having the following stock:-

	Cocks	Hens
a. Old stock of first year, viz. 2 cocks and 12 hens will be completely culled out		
b. Second year pullets and cocks after allowing the mortality and culling percentage etc.	32	180
c. First year pullets and cocks after allowing mortality and culling percentage	81	375
d. Fresh pullets and cocks of varying ages	1,137	1,137
Total	1,250	1,692

Retained for farm use

Out of 1,137 new pullets produced during the third year, 445 will be retained for farm use, and the balance will be available for village poultry improvement work.		445
Out of 1,137 cockrols 10% will be retained for farm use and the balance will be available for village poultry improvement work	113	
Balance of 1st and 2nd year stock	113	555 hens
Stock at the end of the third year: cocks-	226	1,000 hens

The procedure mentioned under 1st and 2nd year will be followed to open additional village poultry improvement centres.

p.t.o.

9. From the details of the scheme furnished above, it will be seen that each District Poultry Farm proposed to be started from next January will be in a position to distribute the following stock for village poultry improvement work.

	Eggs.		Hens.	Cocks
	Table.	Hatching		
I year	3,145	2,200	290	522
II year	24,000	18,010	637	1,024
III year	50,000	50,300	692	1,024
Total	77,145	70,510	1,619	2,570

Figures representing the stock available for distribution to the villages at all the 3 District poultry farms for the next 3 years will be.

Eggs		Hens	Cocks
Table	Hatching		
2,21,435	2,11,530	4,857	7,710

In addition to the above stock each district farm will be having 226 cockrols and 1,000 hens at the end of the 3rd year. The number of the district poultry farms will be increased every year until each district is provided with a district poultry farm. If Government agree to the erection of temporary structures for the District poultry farms, it is hoped that the opening of farms in the remaining districts will be completed in the near future.

10. I have explained in some detail the village poultry improvement work which I have in view by the opening of the District Poultry Farms. Ample opportunities have been provided for the Co-operative Department and the Firka Development staff and similar organisations to participate in the village poultry improvement work at the appropriate stage in the scheme. It is open to Government now to decide whether in addition to the scheme mentioned above, there is any necessity for sanctioning the cockrol distribution scheme drawn up by the Livestock Development Officer.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

K.S. Nair,
Joint Director of Veterinary
Services, Madras.

Copy of letter No.Roc. 3633/47 dated 13th August 1947 from the Live Stock Development Officer, Madras to the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.

Sub: Scheme for poultry improvement
Ref: My No.3633/47, dated 25-7-1947.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras wishes to make the following additions to his note in paragraph 3 after the fourth sentence ending with the words 'tangible results may not be achieved', which was attaced with my above letter to you:--

> "Mere provision of supervisor cockrols will help in securing probably one round of good chicks; but the next will get adulterated as stray cocks will come into the villages. Someone should help in continuously keeping out country cocks from the selected village. He should also keep in combating fowl diseases."

This addition may please be carried out as desired.

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p.t.o.

Copy of letter No.ROC. 247x/47 dated 27th September 1947 from the Livestock Development Officer. Madras. to the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras

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Sub: Poultry Improvement in villages - Scheme
Ref: Your endorsement No.3855-IV/47 dated 19-9-47.

No revision is necessary because Colonisation centres will be included in places of such of the Co-operative Marketting Societies not functioning satisfactorily.

K.S. Nair
Joint Director of Veterinary Services, Madras

(True copy of c.f.)

p.t.o.

Government of Madras

(Abstract)

LIVESTOCK - Poultry Improvement in the districts - Scheme of the Joint Director of Animal Husbandry - Dropped.

Development Department

G.O.Ms.No.6183, Dated 14th December 1948
Read the following:--

From the Director of Anumal Husbandry No.2262-IV/47-1, dated 29th October 1947
From the Joint Director of Animal Husbandry No. 5641-IV/48, dated 18th November 1948.

O r d e r:

The scheme submitted by the Joint Director of Animal Husbandry for the improvement of poultry in the districts will be dropped.

2. The Joint Director of Animal Husbandry is requested to submit definite proposals for giving effect to the following suggestions in consultation with the Director of Agriculture --

(1) every veterinary hospital to have a poultry unit
(2) every agriculture farm to have one unit
(3) Agriculture Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla to have as big units as those of Hosur and Teynampet.

No additional staff is to be employed on these except some menial staff.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor

Sd/ ** **
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To the Joint Director of Animal Husbandry
Copy to the Director of Agriculture.

(True copy)

Office Assistant,
~~Superintendent,~~
Madras Record Office.

aj/31.7

6-1-54